

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JOHANN 00413 172208Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 HA-05 /089 W
-----080060 172244Z /65

R 171315Z FEB 78
FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7286
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JOHANNESBURG 0413

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PINT, SHUM, SF
SUBJECT: KRUGER DECLINES SPECIAL REVIEW OF DETAINEES

REF: JOHANNESBURG 402

1. MINISTER OF JUSTICE KRUGER, REPLYING TO QUERIES ABOUT MINISTER
OF PLURAL AFFAIRS CONNIE MULDER'S STATEMENT
ABOUT THE NEED FOR "CLARIFICATION" OF THE STATUS OF
DETAINEES, HAS DECLINED TO ORDER A SPECIAL REVIEW OF THE CASES
OF DR. MOTLANA AND OTHER COMMITTEE OF TEN DETAINEES. KRUGER
SAID REVIEW OF CASES OF DETAINEES HELD UNDER SECTION 10
PREVENTIVE DETENTION WAS ALREADY UNDER WAY BY LEGAL REVIEW
COMMITTEE AND THERE WAS NO NEED FOR SPECIAL ATTENTION.
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2. KRUGER SAID THE LEGAL REVIEW COMMITTEE HAD ALREADY TWICE
REVIEWED THE STATUS OF ALL OCT 19 DETAINEES AND FOUND NO
REASON TO RECOMMEND RELEASE, EVEN IN LIGHT OF RELATIVE CALM THAT
PREVAIL IN SOWETO. NONETHELESS, KRUGER SAID A THIRD REVIEW
HAD BEEN REQUESTED AND WAS UNDER WAY BEFORE MULDER MADE HIS RE-
MARKS TWO DAYS AGO.

3. COMMENT: THE "LEGAL REVIEW COMMITTEE" IS CHAIRED BY NONE OTHER THAN THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE. WHETHER MULDER'S REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION IS SINCERE, OR MERELY A POLITICAL OVERTURE, IS OPEN TO QUESTION. THE LATEST RUMOR STILL IS THAT THE DETAINEES WILL BE RELEASED AFTER THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN SOWETO THIS MONTH, BUT IT APPEARS, IN ANY EVENT, THAT KRUGER WILL MOVE, AT BEST, ONLY WITH ALL DELIBERATE SPEED. JOHNSON

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Message Attributes

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